

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (withdrawn): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship, comprising:
a pin connection member and a box connection member, said pin and box connection members being adapted for said pin connection member to be inserted into said box connection member;

a securing means for securing said pin and box connection members together after insertion;

said pin and box connection members having complementary recesses diametrically opposite one another for receiving said securing means when said pin connection member engages said box connection member;

said securing means is biased to an unlocked position wherein said pin connection member may be inserted in said box connection member without said securing means engaging said complementary recess of said box connection member, said securing means being moveable to a locked position wherein said pin and box connection members are secured together;

said box connection member having an aperture for accessing said securing means after insertion of said pin connection member into said box connection member; and,

a locking means cooperating with said securing means for locking said securing means in said secured position.

Claim 2 (withdrawn): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a sealing means forming a pressure tight connection between said pin and box connection members after said securing means is engaged.

Claim 3 (withdrawn): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship according to Claim 2, wherein:

said securing means is a split ring.

Claim 4 (withdrawn): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship according to Claim 3, wherein:

said locking means is a wedge block, said wedge block secured to said box connection member, between the open ends of said split ring to maintain said split ring in said complementary recesses of said pin and box connection members.

Claim 5 (withdrawn): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship according to Claim 4, further comprising:

a retainer means formed in said pin connection member, said retainer means retaining said split ring in said unlocked position prior to insertion of said pin connection member into said box connection member; and,

said retainer means is accessible through said aperture of said box connection member.

Claim 6 (withdrawn): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship according to Claim 5, further comprising:

an orientation pin secured to said box connection member;

an orientation slot formed in said pin connection member; and,

said securing means and said retainer means are accessible through said aperture of said box connection member when said orientation pin engages said orientation slot.

Claim 7 (withdrawn): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship according to Claim 6, wherein said retainer means includes:

a plurality of holes formed in said pin connection member, said holes receiving fasteners that engage complementary holes formed in said split ring adjacent said open ends of said split ring.

Claim 8 (withdrawn): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship according to Claim 7, wherein:

said plurality of holes formed in said pin connection member and said fasteners are

threaded.

Claim 9 (withdrawn): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship according to Claim 8, wherein:

said split ring includes a spreader means adjacent said open ends of said split ring to assist in moving said split ring from said unlocked position to said locked position.

Claim 10 (withdrawn): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship according to Claim 9, wherein:

said spreader means includes a pair of holes formed in said split ring.

Claim 11 (withdrawn): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship according to Claim 9, wherein:

said spreader means holes are threaded.

Claim 12 (withdrawn): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship according to Claim 2, wherein:

said securing means is a split ring;

said split ring having at least one articulated joint.

Claim 13 (withdrawn): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship according to Claim 12, wherein:

said locking means is a wedge block, said wedge block secured to said box connection member between the open ends of said split ring to maintain said split ring in said complementary recesses of said pin and box connection members.

Claim 14 (withdrawn): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship according to Claim 13, further comprising:

a retainer means formed in said pin connection member, said retainer means retaining said split ring in said unlocked position prior to insertion of said pin connection member into said box connection member; and,

said retainer means is accessible through said aperture of said box connection member.

Claim 15 (withdrawn): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship according to Claim 14, further comprising:

an orientation pin secured to said box connection member;

an orientation slot formed in said pin connection member; and,

said securing means and said retainer means are accessible through said aperture of said box connection member when said orientation pin engages said orientation slot.

Claim 16 (withdrawn): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship according to Claim 15, wherein said retainer means includes:

a plurality of holes formed in said pin connection member, said holes receiving fasteners that engage complementary holes formed in said split ring adjacent said open ends of said split ring.

Claim 17 (withdrawn): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship according to Claim 16, wherein:

said plurality of holes formed in said pin connection member and said fasteners are threaded.

Claim 18 (withdrawn): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship according to Claim 17, wherein:

said split ring includes a spreader means adjacent said open ends of said split ring to assist in moving said split ring from said unlocked position to said locked position.

Claim 19 (withdrawn): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship according to Claim 18, wherein:

said spreader means includes a pair of holes formed in said split ring.

Claim 20 (withdrawn): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship according to Claim 19, wherein:

said spreader means holes are threaded.

Claim 21 (original): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship, comprising:

a pin connection member and a box connection member, said pin and box connection members being adapted for said pin connection member to be inserted into said box connection member;

a securing means for securing said pin and box connection members together after insertion;

said pin and box connection members having complementary recesses diametrically opposite one another for receiving said securing means when said pin connection member engages said box connection member;

said securing means is biased to a locked position wherein said pin connection member may not be inserted in said box connection member without said securing means being contracted to and retained in an unlocked position prior to insertion, said securing means being moveable to a locked position wherein said pin and box connection members are secured together;

said box connection member having an aperture for accessing said securing means after insertion of said pin connection member into said box connection member; and,

a locking means cooperating with said securing means for locking said securing means in said secured position.

Claim 22 (original): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship according to Claim 21, further comprising:

a sealing means forming a pressure tight connection between said pin and box connection members after said securing means is engaged.

Claim 23 (original): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship according to Claim 22, wherein:

said securing means is a split ring.

Claim 24 (original): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship according to

Claim 23, wherein:

said locking means is a wedge block, said wedge block secured to said box connection member, between the open ends of said split ring to maintain said split ring in said complementary recesses of said pin and box connection members.

Claim 25 (original): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship according to Claim 24, further comprising:

a retainer means formed in said pin connection member, said retainer means retaining said split ring in said unlocked position prior to insertion of said pin connection member into said box connection member; and,

said retainer means is accessible through said aperture of said box connection member.

Claim 26 (original): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship according to Claim 25, further comprising:

an orientation pin secured to said box connection member;

an orientation slot formed in said pin connection member; and,

said securing means and said retainer means are accessible through said aperture of said box connection member when said orientation pin engages said orientation slot.

Claim 27 (original): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship according to Claim 26, wherein said retainer means includes:

a plurality of holes formed in said pin connection member, said holes receiving fasteners that engage complementary holes formed in said split ring adjacent said open ends of said split ring.

Claim 28 (original): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship according to Claim 27, wherein:

said plurality of holes formed in said pin connection member and said fasteners are threaded.

Claim 29 (original): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship according to

Appl. No. 10/770,916
Amdt. dated June 30, 2004
Reply to Office Action of June 24, 2004

Docket No.: OTD-030307-DIV 1

Claim 28, wherein:

said split ring includes a spreader means adjacent said open ends of said split ring to assist in moving said split ring from said unlocked position to said locked position.

Claim 30 (original): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship according to

Claim 29, wherein:

said spreader means includes a pair of holes formed in said split ring.

Claim 31 (original): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship according to

Claim 30, wherein:

said spreader means holes are threaded.

Appl. No. 10/770,916
Amdt. dated June 30, 2004
Reply to Office Action of June 24, 2004

Docket No.: OTD-030307-DIV 1

Amendments to the Drawings:

No amendments to the Drawings are being made with this paper.